

**AN ORDINANCE
BY COUNCIL MEMBER CATHY WOOLARD**

00-○ -1975

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SUBPART A OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA CODE OF ORDINANCES, SO AS TO DELETE THE WORDS "RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, MARITAL STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, OR GENDER IDENTITY;" AND TO INSERT THE FOLLOWING WORDS IN LIEU THEREOF: "RACE, COLOR, CREED, RELIGION, SEX, DOMESTIC RELATIONSHIP STATUS, PARENTAL STATUS, FAMILIAL STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, OR GENDER IDENTITY;" TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta has a rich history in the civil rights movement and is rightfully considered one of the most progressive cities in the country regarding its policies ensuring equal rights for all its citizens; and

WHEREAS, there has never been a comprehensive review of the City's existing human rights ordinances, resulting in inconsistencies in coverage and definitions in various code sections.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SUBPART A OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA CODE OF ORDINANCES which currently reads as follows:

BILL OF RIGHTS

The council, mayor and all departments of government of the City of Atlanta shall be guided by the provisions of this Bill of Rights:

1. Religion and Conscience. The City of Atlanta shall not interfere with the freedom of each person in the city to follow the dictates of his or her own conscience concerning religious worship, nor shall the city support any religion.
2. Speech, Assembly and Press. The City of Atlanta shall not interfere with the rights of freedom of speech, of freedom of the press, to petition the government, or of peaceable assembly.
3. Unreasonable Searches and Seizures. The City of Atlanta shall not authorize any unreasonable search or seizure.

4. Nondiscrimination. The City of Atlanta shall not, directly or indirectly, discriminate among persons because of race, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, or national origin. Nothing herein shall prevent the City of Atlanta from remedying present discrimination or the present effects of past discrimination by a race-conscious affirmative action program which is in compliance with the Constitution and laws of the United States of America and the State of Georgia.

5. Environmental Protection. The City of Atlanta shall promote the right of the people to clean air, pure water, freedom from excessive and unnecessary noise, and the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic qualities of the environment.
(1996 Ga. L. (Act No. 1019), p. 4469)

Be amended by deleting the foregoing words “ race, color, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin or gender identity” and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

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3. Unreasonable Searches and Seizures. The City of Atlanta shall not authorize any unreasonable search or seizure.

4. Nondiscrimination. The City of Atlanta shall not, directly or indirectly, discriminate among persons because of **race, color, creed, religion, sex, domestic relationship status, parental status, familial status, sexual orientation, national origin, political affiliation, or gender identity**. Nothing herein shall prevent the City of Atlanta from remedying present discrimination or the present effects of past discrimination by a race-conscious affirmative action program which is in compliance with the Constitution and laws of the United States of America and the State of Georgia.

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